



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Stone Lakes National Wildlife Refuge
1624 Hood-Franklin Road
Elk Grove, California 95757
(916) 774-4421; (916) 775-4407 (fax)
November 15, 2004



PROPOSED **REFUGE WATERFOWL HUNTING PROGRAM**

Dear Interested Reviewer:

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) is pleased to inform you of the availability of a draft Environmental Assessment (EA) for your review that addresses a proposed waterfowl hunting program on Stone Lakes National Wildlife Refuge, Sacramento County. Included with the draft EA are a Waterfowl Hunt Plan and a Compatibility Determination for waterfowl hunting. You can view these documents on the Stone Lakes NWR website (<http://stonelakes.fws.gov>) and at local libraries. We will provide copies of the draft EA and other documents upon request. Following a 30-day public review period that will end on December 20, 2004, the Service will consider the comments we receive. Comments received will be incorporated into the final documents, as appropriate, and will be available upon request. Following this, the decision to prepare either a Finding of No Significant Impact or an Environmental Impact Statement will be made. When finalized, all documents will be available on the refuge website and the affected public will be notified of their availability. Copies of the draft EA and related documents will be available for review at the following libraries:

Sacramento Central Public Library
Arden Community Library
Belle Coolege Community Library (Sacramento)
Sacramento Public Library (Elk Grove branch)
Clarksburg Yolo County Library
Colonial Heights Community Library (Sacramento)
Courtland Branch Library
Galt Branch Library

The draft EA evaluates three alternatives and the associated environmental effects of each alternative. The Service has identified Alternative B as the Proposed Action. Under this alternative, the Service would offer a waterfowl hunting program on a 912-acre unit of the Refuge in which opportunities for youth and mobility-impaired hunters would be emphasized. Hunting would occur two days per week and initially accommodate 12 hunters. As funding and more facilities become available during the next five years, the program would expand to a maximum of 22 hunters. For more information on the proposed project or to receive copies of the documents, please contact Tom Harvey at:

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